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From: John Mustarde [mailto:jmustarde@cox.net]

Sent: Saturday, July 01, 2006 9:47 AM

To: Public Hearing

Subject: Please - Deny the proposed Wal Mart Bank

I live in the wonderful county of Lamar, Texas at the border between Reno (about 5500 pop.) and Paris (about 28,000 pop.) We have one Super Wal Mart which is at this moment eliminating existing small businesses. The small businesses are unable to coerce suppliers into the type of arrangements Wal Mart can enforce. There are also a few small county banks, which would suffer the same fate if Wal Mart was allowed to enter banking.

There is no need for us to become the United States of Wal Mart, capitol Bentonville, AK. Every low price or competitive advantage of Wal Mart has a secret cost - we pay their worker's healthcare through our property and sales taxes, or the Chinese worker's pay through their low wage living conditions.

It is time for Wal Mart to stop living off the backs of others. If Wal Mart needs special attention or legislation to compete, then obviously their business model is failing.

If Wal Mart really wants to enter banking, let them buy a Bank of America-like entity. But it's probably cheaper for them to buy a legislator or three.

It's not like Bentonville is short of cash or anything. Since when does the most profitable corporation ever need to sup pauper-like at the trough of government aid. Matter of fact, Wal Mart, unlike so many of us, does not have to shop at Wal Mart (because we have to save ten cents here and there since we lost our jobs to corporate downsizing and sending jobs overseas)

Wal Mart can afford to shop at Neiman-Marcus. And pay full price, inflated even, in cash.